

The Director of Central Intelligence

Approved For Release 2005/08/22 : CIA-RDP82M00345R000700030021-3

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77-6566/5

OLC #77-~~2261~~

2261

13 JUN 1977

The Honorable Les Aspin  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

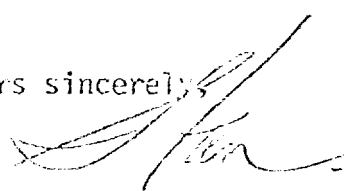
Dear Mr. Aspin,

My apologies for not following up since March 14th on the questions on the unclassified report on Soviet Civil Defense. Quite frankly, we were on the verge of publication in early May when new data was received. This information indicated that one of our principal findings, that on the capability to shelter population, might be off by a considerable factor. Accordingly, I have felt it prudent to delay publication until we can sort this one out. Unfortunately, it may take some months to do this as it requires going back through a lot of existing data to search for clues which were there but not uncovered previously.

I'm very sorry about this because I had hoped to be of assistance to the ongoing debate on this important question. I will, of course, be happy at any time to offer you a classified briefing on the exact status of the Soviet Civil Defense program as we currently see it.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



STANSFIELD TURNER

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Marie - *BL Pinder BIP*

Re the attached, THW said that he has not forwarded the Aspin letter or gotten in contact with the staff because a decision has been made to hold off a little longer on the release of the report. According to the last letter sent Aspin, 14 Mar 77, we said we would advise him of release. Since there hasn't been a release, we should hold off for a while.

No action is required as yet, so I am returning the folder to you.

K.

Date

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Washington, D. C. 20505

77-6500/A  
OLC 77-0789/a

14 March 1977

The Honorable Les Aspin  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Aspin:

This is in response to your 1 March letter requesting under FOIA an unclassified version of the Intelligence Community report on the Soviet civil defense program.

We do not at this time have an unclassified version of this report. I am, however, personally very interested in the matter, and we have been reviewing the question of whether we can produce a meaningful unclassified report for public release. Pending a decision on this, we would be pleased to brief you on the Soviet civil defense program or forward the classified report to the House Armed Services Committee for your review in the Committee's office.

Let me assure you that I will advise you of our decision regarding an unclassified version of the report.

Yours sincerely,

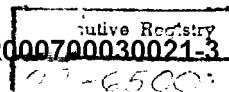
STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U. S. Navy

*P.S. My personal investigation indicates that the "unclassified" version to which you refer was classified Secret, but proposed for declassification. It was not declassified (judgmental call with which I concur) but we are looking again to see if it can be made to meet the criteria for unclassified & meaningful.*

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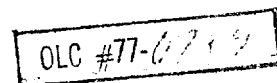
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515



March 1, 1977

Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act as amended (5 U.S.C. 552).

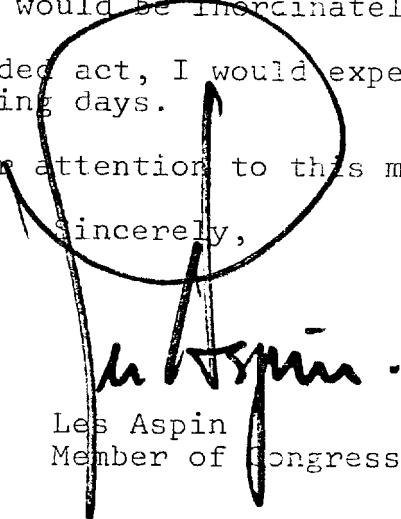
I am writing to request a copy of the unclassified version of the recent intelligence community report on the Soviet civil defense program. As I understand the situation, such a version was prepared by analysts within the CIA but was not released publicly as originally planned.

There has been a flood of conflicting and misleading claims in this area. Any information that could be provided publicly by a credible authority--even if tentatively offered with a clear explication of the uncertainties involved--would greatly elevate the current level of debate and would be inordinately useful.

As provided for in the amended act, I would expect to receive a reply within ten working days.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Les Aspin  
Member of Congress

LA:egs

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